

# **Cobb County Water System**

## **Outdoor Water Use Ban Guidelines**

The Cobb County Water System is abiding by a directive of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for water use curtailment for the 15-county Metro Atlanta region.

### **Outdoor water use schedule during non-drought periods:**

- On an even and odd address basis on allowed days only. Allowed days and exceptions are listed below.
- No time restrictions for non-drought periods.
- See below for basic drought schedules for outdoor water use, level one through level four.

Persons with private wells or those who pump from ponds or streams are requested to follow water ban guidelines; it is suggested they post a notice sign as to “Private Water Source” and notify the Cobb County Water System for listing and verification of their private water source.

## **Cobb County Code 121 § 261, 262 & 263**

### **“Allowed Days”:**

- Odd-numbered addresses may water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.
- Even-numbered or unnumbered addresses may water on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- **No outdoor water use on Friday whatsoever.**

### **“Allowed Weekend Day” :**

- Odd-numbered addresses may water on Sundays.
- Even-numbered or unnumbered addresses may water on Saturdays.

### **Basic Drought Schedule for Outdoor Water Use:**

- Level One:  
Water on allowed days, from 12 midnight to 10 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 12 midnight.
- Level Two:  
Water on allowed days, from 12 midnight to 10 a.m.
- Level Three:  
Water on allowed weekend day, from 12 midnight to 10 a.m.
- Level Four:  
Complete outdoor water use ban.

Residential, commercial, government and institutional water use restriction including, but not limited to: watering lawns, washing cars at non-commercial facilities, hosing sidewalks and driveways, and outdoor recreational activities. Please note that irrigation controls may require resetting to accommodate the allowed days.

**EXCEPTIONS § 122-264:** Outdoor water use that is essential to a business’s provision of services to a customer is NOT included at this time and is NOT subject to warning or citation. There is NO intent to cause economic hardship to local business operations.

Examples of commercials/businesses eligible for exemptions are:

- Irrigation of personal food gardens are exempt from restrictions
- Irrigation with drip or other comparable low flow irrigation systems are exempt from restrictions.
- Commercial power or pressure washing

- Commercial car washes
- Commercial hydro-seeding
- Construction sites and new unoccupied construction (e.g., pouring of concrete or to re-implement vegetation after earth moving.)
- Golf courses – misting of putting greens only – fairways shall follow irrigation schedule for unnumbered addresses based on allowable days and drought level.
- Nurseries/Garden Centers – may maintain, as necessary, retail inventory but on-site landscaped areas are subject to ban restrictions.
- Turf installers:
  1. At the time of professional installation only and for the first 24 hours, there is a full exception of ban restrictions. Professional landscapers must be certified or licensed for commercial exception to apply.
  2. For a 30-day period following the day of installation, for the purpose of allowing turf establishment; the site of the new turf is exempt from the even-odd restriction (allowing watering on an everyday basis), but is not exempt from the 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. watering restriction (Level 1 or higher level restrictions). Installation documentation will be required.
- Irrigation contractors – During installation and as needed for proper maintenance and adjustment only.
- Sod producers
- Ornamental growers
- Fruit and vegetable growers
- Other activities essential to daily business.
- Retail garden centers
- Producers of foods & fiber
- Watering in of pesticides and herbicides on turf

Prudent water management will be expected of all commercial users. Note that some of these State-allowed exemptions may be curtailed in Levels 3 and 4.

Other Restricted Outdoor Water Uses During Allowed Days and Hours Only				
Type	Level			
	1 Allowed days from 12 midnight to 10 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 12 midnight	2 Allowed days from 12 midnight to 10 a.m.	3 Allowed weekend day only, from 12 midnight to 10 a.m.	4 Complete outdoor water use ban
Filling installed swimming pools <i>(except when necessary for health care and structural integrity)</i>	Allowed	Allowed	Prohibited	Prohibited
Non-commercial fund raisers, such as car washes	Allowed	Allowed	Prohibited	Prohibited
Using water for ornamental purposes, such as fountains, reflecting pools and waterfalls <i>(except when necessary to support aquatic life)</i>	Allowed	Allowed	Prohibited	Prohibited
Washing hard surfaces, such as streets, gutters, sidewalks, driveways, etc. <i>(except when necessary for public health and safety)</i>	Allowed	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
Using fire hydrants for any purpose other than fire fighting, public health or safety	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
Flushing of hydrants following basic schedule	Allowed	Allowed	Prohibited	Prohibited

**VIOLATIONS:** Customers in violation will be issued a violation notice in person or by posting at the property.

### County Code § 122-265 & 266

Outdoor Water Use Violation	Administrative Penalty
1 <sup>st</sup>	Official Warning
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$100.00
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$250.00
4 <sup>th</sup> and others	\$500.00 & Service Disconnect

Cobb County Water System 770-423-1000